SEP L Under the Paper

PTO/SB/30 (08-00) Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

# REQUEST

### **CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/887,412	1
Filing Date	Jun 21, 2001	
First Named Inventor	Lengyel	
Group Art Unit	2671	
Examiner Name	NGUYEN, KIMBINH T	
Attorney Docket Number	MS1-603US	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114  a. Previously submitted i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).  ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply B iii. Other  b. Enclosed i. Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. Other  2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exc b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following for Deposit Account No. 12-0769 i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) iii. Other  b. Check in the amount of \$	requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for eed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) the RCE is filed. ees, or credit any overpayments, to	
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY	, OR AGENT REQUIRED	
Name (Print /Type) Mark C. Farrell Signature	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 45,988  Date 9-22-04	
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION		
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent Office on:  Name (Print/Type)   Carly E. Taylor		
Name (Print/Type) Cally E. Jaylol Signature	Date 9/27/04	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

## REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 5, 2004

#### AS PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR RCE

To: Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Mark Farrell (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)

Lee & Hayes, PLLC

421 W. Riverside Ave., Suite 500

Spokane, WA 99201

### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 (After Final) is in response to the Final Office Action dated April 5, 2004 with a three month shortened statutory period for reply and serves as a preliminary amendment for an RCE.

lee@hayes pilc 509-324-9256

2